**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 15‑7‑30, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO VENUE IN CIVIL ACTIONS AND ACTIONS THAT MUST BE TRIED IN THE COUNTY WHERE THE DEFENDANT RESIDES, SO AS TO DELETE THE EXCEPTION TO VENUE IN CIVIL ACTIONS REGARDING THE SOUTH CAROLINA TORT CLAIMS ACT; AND TO AMEND SECTION 15‑78‑100, RELATING TO VENUE IN CIVIL ACTIONS REGARDING THE SOUTH CAROLINA TORT CLAIMS ACT, AMONG OTHER THINGS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT JURISDICTION FOR A CIVIL ACTION BROUGHT UNDER THE ACT IS THE SAME AS THAT PROVIDED IN SECTION 15‑7‑30 FOR ALL OTHER CIVIL ACTIONS.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 15‑7‑30(B) of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 27 of 2005, is further amended to read:

“(B) In cases not provided for in ~~Sections~~ Section 15‑7‑10~~,~~ or 15‑7‑20, ~~or 15‑78‑100,~~ the action must be tried in the county where it properly may be brought and tried against the defendant according to the provisions of this section. If there is more than one defendant, the action may be tried in any county where the action properly may be maintained against one of the defendants pursuant to this section. This section is subject to the power of the court in the county where the action properly may be maintained according to this section to change the place of trial as provided in Section 15‑7‑100 or as otherwise provided by law.”

SECTION 2. Section 15‑78‑100(b) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(b) Jurisdiction for ~~any~~ an action brought ~~under~~ pursuant to the provisions of this chapter is ~~in the circuit court and brought in the county in which the act or omission occurred~~ as provided in Section 15‑7‑30.”

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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